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OFFICIAL WORLD REACTION TO NEW SOVIET REGIME  
ENTIRELY FROM OFFICIAL CABLES.

Moscow American Embassy notes a continued trend towards build-up of Malenkov's prestige in the press.

Brussels Belgian Embassy official comments that impending death of Stalin demonstrates correctness of those who felt that German contribution to Western defense is not a matter of greatest urgency.

Munich Russian experts unanimously warn against making official announcement on Stalin illness. They point out that nothing could be more conducive to fostering unity in the Kremlin and even in the population than diatribes/ or speculating on a struggle for power. In short do not induce a reaction of unity but let the yeast work.

Manila Filipinos regard Stalin death as important event but are unconcerned about developments in remote Russia. Defense Minister Magsaysay suggested it might foreshadow turning point in Communist advance in Asia if Stalin successor falls out with Mao.

Vienna Top Austrian officials consider that Stalin's death will on short range basis at least increase danger for Austria. They believe that in addition to disappearance of a leader noted for caution and patience, there

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is danger of internal developments from which regime would distract ~~xxx~~ attention by attempting greater foreign successes.

Belgrade Mose Pijade believes Stalin's disappearance will seriously weaken the USSR, since no comparable leader exists to take his place. He thinks the new regime may undertake international adventure in order to cover up a desperate domestic situation.

*weakened*  
Tito believes ~~xxx~~ Soviet hold on satellites, especially Albania, may result from developments in USSR. He ~~xxx~~ expects also a serious struggle for succession, inasmuch as "dictators never build up a successor."

Kardelj believes West must continue firm policy towards USSR. He states Yugoslavia would rebuff Soviet overtures if made by new Government. He predicts disintegration in Cominform structure as first manifestation of Soviet ~~weakness~~. Next evidence would be weakening of Soviet hold over satellites. The process is inevitable but will not be rapid. Kardelj thinks Mao's stature will grow and he "may even begin to instruct Moscow." However, China is too weak industrially to assume great importance without continued Russian support. Soviet anti-Semitism is likely to be submerged by great new purges instituted by new leaders.

Paris French Foreign Office officials made following points before

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learning of new government. (1) No single man believed capable for time being of assuming burden of power alone and controlling the party, police, government ~~administration~~ and army.

(2) Since Stalin as a Georgian was a member of an ethnic minority the question arises whether his Great Russian successors would be equally acceptable.

(3) Since Stalin was man of caution, the dangers resulting from miscalculation ~~miscalculations~~ are now enhanced and Western nations should accordingly exercise ~~greater~~ greater caution than ever to not place Soviet leaders in situations from which it would be more difficult for them than it was for Stalin to retreat.

(4) There will probably be no changes in the Soviet setup or foreign policy in the coming year.

Paris Reactions of A. Rossi, former member of Comintern Secretariat - expelled in 1929.

(1) There can be no doubt that Stalin at 19th Party Congress invested Malenkov as his successor.

(2) Malenkov will follow Stalin's policies.

(3) Stalin may not have had time to settle all details of the

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personal Secretariat? Can Malenkov replace Stalin's head of national  
defense as well?

(4) Stalin's death will weaken USSR, but one must not expect  
any sudden or rapid changes in the internal situation.

(5) Above all with Malenkov there will be no changes in Soviet  
foreign policy as practiced by Stalin. We can expect no reckless coups  
d'etat nor any abandonment of present positions on policy in the forth-  
coming period.

Tokyo Foreign office Soviet experts discount the possibility of major  
changes in Soviet foreign policy but fear that an outbreak of internal  
strife following Stalin's death might cause the successor to precipitate  
external adventures. They feel that control over the satellite countries  
might be weakened and the unity of the Communist bloc disrupted.

New Delhi Comments by Nehru — (1) Nehru emphasized that a whole new  
system to make decisions must be created since Stalin had been the last word on  
everything. He expressed grave doubts that this could be handled without  
deepened complications and a possibility of explosion.

(2) He believed that Mao would exert heavy pressure on Soviet leadership

to become chief spokesman of a USSR-Communist China Gominform movement. He hoped for increased difficulties on this score.

(3) Nehru believed that for next several months the policies of the USSR will be at least as tough if not tougher than under Stalin. While the USSR may become more adamant on Korea, China may soften, particularly if she begins to lose confidence in a smooth power transition inside the USSR.

(4) The Free world should remain patient and moderate even in the face of increased disturbances.

(5) It will become more difficult to hold the Indian Communist Party to Moscow — it may be more and more oriented to Peking.